

28: Thomas H-4 (no date) 1962 NO6 Comanche NO6
(1786)

THOMAS]

COMANCHE DOCUMENT

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- C and detachment of one hundred and fourteen men
D Apache whom he killed by his own hand
E two wounds which he received
F²³ Two other Apache killed in the battle
G two prisoners
H Forty horses and twenty she-mules which he took from them
K Chief Salambipu with his lance and detachment of eighty-eight men
L Two dead Apache²⁴
I twenty riding beasts recaptured²⁵
M Six wounded Comanche,²⁶ one of whom died
N Chief Encajive with his lance and party of fifty men
o A dead Apache
P a wounded Comanche
Q Chief Piqueipe with his lance commanding sixty-four men, whose party, farthest west, produced no result, as it was seen by the enemy.

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NOTE

Neither the report of the Governor nor the explanation which Oxamaguea gave him explained this sign f. It is believed that it indicates the individuals who without being chiefs won some distinction.

NOTICIA

Information (Noticia) concerning the Comanche chiefs present in the Villa of Santa Fé and Pueblo of Pecos in the year of 86 until the 14th of July, to treat for the purpose of adjusting the peace celebrated with Governor Don Juan Bautista de Anza with a statement of the number of tents, which each one has under his command, in which there may be computed about three men of arms and from seven to eight women and children.

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found. It is not impossible, in fact it is quite likely, that such an account exists in Spanish archives. On the use of *sable*, see *Diccionario de la Lengua Castellana extraído del Diccionario Enciclopédico* compuesto por E. Zerolo, M. de Toro y Gomez, E. Isaza. The example given by the authors there is: "Usaran de las espadas o *sables* los oficiales. (Orden Mil.)."

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²³ The Spanish copyist wrote a sequence of EF for two F's, as may be seen in the copy of this Tally Sheet accompanying the *Relacion* (see footnote 4 above).

²⁴ Garrick Mallery, *Picture Writing of the American Indians*, illustration opposite page 374, shows dead Sioux on their heads, whereas these are shown here heads up in D, F, L, and o. Prisoners, on the other hand, are indicated with heads down in G.

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²⁵ The reproduction here has the familiar horseshoes marks in H, I, by which horses are commonly indicated in Plains pictographic art. Inasmuch as horses and mules are definitely indicated in H, the animals indicated in I, referred to as *carollarias*, and drawn much smaller, might be donkey pack animals. The word *carollarias* (eighteenth century Spanish for *caballerias*) means riding beasts, though the word in eighteenth century documents is frequently used to refer to the whole horse herd.

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²⁶ The wounded Comanche are indicated by what appears to be broken lances.

/page 31 continued/

C personally but not the society. As the job takes more and more time
K it also begins to cut into my field time to a rather dangerous extent.
129 So what started out as seemingly an asset has rapidly become the mill-
stone around the neck.

C Our decampment from Lawton to the little hill town of Medicine
K Park has done much to offset my identification with Lawton. Informants
129 are happy to visit with us in Medicine Park but would not do so when
122 we were in Lawton. We have been able to keep up continuous contact
C with two families, fairly good contact with two others, and then there
K are various older people that our introductions take us to see for
124 specific information. It is not easy to keep good contacts with a
129 representative cross section due to the fact that our major intro-
ductions come from just two families. While neither family cares who
we consort with in the other tribe they are a little careful to see
that we deal with approved people in their own tribe. Ergo we know
the Kiowa Christians and the Comanche peyotists which is something
of an unequal situation for good comparisons.

Kinship Organization and Behavior, Settlement Patterns and Mobility

C While it is possible to trace the breakdown of the tribal and
K band organization and the traditional authority of the chiefs etc.,
601 it is, so far, almost impossible to gauge changes in the kinship
198 organization. The work done in this area, however, has pointed out
602 some differences between the Comanches and Kiowas. Unfortunately,
no firm conclusions may be reached without statistical evidence
which is not forthcoming.

C Since the settlement on individual allotments, the Comanches
K and Kiowas have taken the great step toward living as nuclear families.
592 As far as I can determine, the Kiowas still live in such a manner that
K the members of the extended family have allotments fairly close to-
361 gether. Most of the Rowell, Quetone, and Horse families are located
592 to the north of Meers. The Rowell family alone, including half sib-
lings, is settled along the Meers to Porter Hill road. There are, of

595 one wife was purchased. Sisters often trained themselves so that they could be wives of the same man, one learning to be a good horse-woman and the other to be expert in the tanning of hides and making of clothes, one complementing the other, in the hope that they might be purchased at the same time and so remain together.

If, in due time, there came to be need of a third wife, the rule was that she be young and healthy, capable of taking over the burdens of the older women. When the young wife bore a baby for the camp there was rejoicing, not only by the husband but by the other wives as well. This was especially true if it was a boy baby. (This part appealed to me. Just think of a family life where they never ran out of babies!)

595 I never once saw an older wife scold or mistreat the child of
355 another wife. In fact, I never saw a Comanche woman mistreat any woman's child. It was no uncommon sight to see one wife caring for the children, while the other wife or wives were working, say, at hauling up wood for the camp.

At the time when I knew them, the Comanches were still living
657 strictly a camp life. Where it was possible, the Indian Department had
423 fenced the family allotments all into one enclosure or pasture, using
417 four strands of barbed wire and posts every rod. The department had
342 also built each family a box house—in most instances measuring fourteen by twenty-eight feet, shingle-roofed, and set on a foundation of rock piers about four feet apart.

342 Obviously, a family consisting of the husband, two to three wives,
592 and several children could not live in a space that small. For spring, summer, and fall use a family would construct a brush arbor. Forked posts were cut so as to be about seven or eight feet tall when the lower end was set in the ground. Poles were laid from one fork to another, and in turn numerous cross poles were laid on them. Then a thick layer of brush with leaves was piled on the cross poles. This layer was thick enough to repel the sun's heat and shed the water from a reasonable rain. From time to time, as they were needed, additional layers of brush were applied.

This arbor served as living quarters for the family the greater part of the year. Since the sides were left open, whatever breeze there was, from whichever direction it came, was utilized. Platforms, placed on
352 forked sticks and about three feet from the ground, served as beds.
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252 The cooking was done on an open fire, just below the bank of a